

Calendar No. 478

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 43

Expressing the sense of Congress that the President of the United States should encourage free and fair elections and respect for democracy in Peru.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2000

Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. L. CHAFEE) submitted the following joint resolution; which was read the first time

MARCH 29, 2000

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

JOINT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the President of the United States should encourage free and fair elections and respect for democracy in Peru.

Whereas presidential and congressional elections are scheduled to occur in Peru on April 9, 2000;

Whereas independent election monitors have expressed grave doubts about the fairness of the electoral process due to the Peruvian Government's control of key official electoral agencies, systematic restrictions on freedom of the press, manipulation of the judicial processes to stifle independent reporting on radio, television, and newspaper

outlets, and harassment and intimidation of opposition politicians, which have greatly limited the ability of opposing candidates to campaign freely; and

Whereas the absence of free and fair elections in Peru would constitute a major setback for the Peruvian people and for democracy in the hemisphere, could result in instability in Peru, and could jeopardize United States antinarcotics objectives in Peru and the region: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
 3 That it is the sense of Congress that the President of the
 4 United States should promptly convey to the President of
 5 Peru that if the April 9, 2000 elections are not deemed
 6 by the international community to have been free and fair,
 7 the United States will modify its political and economic
 8 relations with Peru, including its support for international
 9 financial institution loans to Peru, and will work with
 10 other democracies in this hemisphere and elsewhere to-
 11 ward a restoration of democracy in Peru.

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